

REMARKS

Claims 104-125 remain in this application. Claims 1-103 have been canceled, without prejudice. By these amendments, no new matter has been added.

The present patent application is drawn to a process for forming a ceramic material starting with a thermoplastic polymer. The polymer is "preceramic" in the sense that it is later converted into a ceramic material by pyrolysis, after first being converted to a thermoset polymer by cross-linking. Thus, a variety of ceramic components may be shaped while in a thermoplastic state.

Claims 49-103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Claims 49-103 have been cancelled. These rejections are therefore moot, and should be withdrawn. New claims 104-125 are believed to be sufficiently definite.

Claims 49 and 50 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 and 2 of Patent No. 6,403,750. Claims 49 and 50 have been cancelled. These rejections are therefore moot, and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 104-125 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested, and a timely Notice of Allowability is solicited. To the extent it would be helpful to placing this application in condition for allowance, the Applicant encourages the Examiner to contact the undersigned counsel and conduct a telephonic interview.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition the Commissioner for a three-month extension of time, extending to April 8, 2006, the period for action to the Notice Granting Petition to Revive mailed November 8, 2005. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-3683.

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